

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ELAB, RP

SUBJECT: TUCP TREASURER ADMITS AFFILITATION WITH THE WFTU

REF: (A) MANILA 3988, (B) MANILA A-175

1. BONIFACION V. TUPAZ, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE TRADE UNIONS OF THE PHILIPPINES AND ALLIED SERVICES (TUPAS) AND TREASURER OF THE TUCP (TRADE UNION CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES) ADMITTED TO LABATT IN A CONVERSATION AUGUST 12, THAT HE WILL COMPLETE THE AFFILIATION OF HIS UNION WITH THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (WFTU) AT THE NEXT CONGRESS OF THE WFTU IN APRIL 1978. THE AFFILIATION WAS INITIATED IN 1974 BUT BECAUSE OF THE POLITICS RELATING TO THE ATTEMPT AT THAT TIME TO CREATE THE TUCP HE REQUESTED THE WFTU TO HOLD UP ON HIS AFFILIATION. TUPAZ INSISTS THAT HE IS NOT AFFILIATING BECAUSE OF IDEOLOGY FOR "WE ARE NO COMMUNISTS. SOCIALISTS MAYBE, BUT NOT COMMUNISTS. IF WE WERE REQUIRED TO MAKE AN IDEOLOGICAL COMMITMENT, THEN WE WOULD WITHDRAW."

2. TUPAZ CONTENTS THAT HIS ONLY INTEREST IN WFTU AFFILIATION IS IN BEING ABLE TO COMMUNICATE INTERNATIONALLY AND CALL UPON A FOREIGN ORGANIZATION TO HELP HIM WHEN HE HAS PROBLEMS HE CAN'T HANDLE HIMSELF. HE CLAIMS THAT

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BERT OCA KEEPS HIM OUT OF THE ICFTU (INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF FREE TRADE UNIONS) AND JOHNNIE TAN KEEPS HIM OUT OF THE WCL (WORLD CONFERATION OF LABOR). HE SAID, "IF GEORGE MEANY WOULD LET HIM AFFILIATE WITH THE AFL-CIO, HE WOULD NOT AFFILIATE WITH THE WFTU." IF THE TUCP OBJECTS TO HIS AFFILIATION WITH THE WFTU, THEN HE WILL WITHDRAW FROM THE TUCP. TUPAZ CLAIMS THAT

HIS UNION IS TWICE THE SIZE OF BERT OCA'S. HE ALSO CLAIMS THAT HIS UNION HAS THE GREATEST NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN THE FOOD AND BEVERAGE INDUSTRY, THE METAL INDUSTRY, AND THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY.

3. COMMENT: THERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN ELEMENT OF DOUBT ABOUT THE TUPAS AFFILIATION WITH THE WFTU (SEE REF A). NOW IT IS CONFIRMED AND TUPAZ MAKES NO APOLOGIES. IT REMAINS FOR TUCP TO DECIDE WHAT TO DO ABOUT HAVING ITS THE UNION OF ITS TREASURER AFFILIATED WITH A COMMUNIST DOMINATED CONFEDERATION. FRIENDS OF TUPAZ SAY THAT THE WFTU WILL CONDUCT A SEMINAR IN MANILA FOR TUPAS IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER OF 1977. TUPAZ DENIES THAT IT WILL BE IN 1977 BUT ADMITS THAT HE EXPECTS ONE SOME TIME LATER, AFTER THE WFTU FINALIZES THE AFFILIATION IN APRIL 1978. DESPITE THE STRAIN THIS COULD MEAN IN THE TUCP-AFL-CIO RELATIONSHIP, WE BELIEVE THE TUCP WILL LIKELY DO NOTHING ABOUT TUPAZA AND HIS UNION'S AFFILIATION BECAUSE IT COMPLEMENTS THE GOP'S MOVEMENT TOWARD A MORE INDEPENDENT STANCE IN ITS INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. (REF B) WHAT IS MORE IMPORTANT IS WHAT WILL THE AFL-CIO DO ABOUT AAFLI (ASIAN-AMERICAN FREE LABOR INSTITUTE) AND ITS MANY PROJECTS WITH THE TUCP? BEN SHARMAN, INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS (IAM) HAS NOTIFIED THE TUCP THAT IT WILL NOT FINANCE DELEGATES FROM TUPAS FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FORTHCOMING INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS FEDERATION (IMF) SEMINARE IN TAIPEI.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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